



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,210	12/05/2003	Matthew Christopher Coriale	4670-239/2003-0146.02	9484

7590 12/02/2004

ATT: JOHN J. McARDLE, JR.
LEXMARK INTERNATIONAL, INC.
740 WEST NEW CIRCLE ROAD
LEXINGTON, KY 40550

EXAMINER

CRENSHAW, MARVIN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2854

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/729,210

Applicant(s)

CORIALE ET AL.

Examiner

Marvin P. Crenshaw

Art Unit

2854



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/20/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 –18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kaneko.

Kaneko teaches a method of clearing a jam from an image forming device (See Abstract), the method comprising the steps of tracking (See col. 2, lines 32 – 43) the position of a media sheet moving through a media path, detecting a media jam (See col. 1, lines 43 – 56) when the media sheet does not reach a predetermined point on the media path within a predetermined limit, determining the position of the media sheet at the time of the media jam (See col. 1, lines 43 – 56) and determining which one of a plurality of access points provides access to the media jam in at least damaging and ergonomically correct manner and displaying the one of the plurality of access points to an operator (See col. 2, lines 1 – 19).

With respect to claim 2, Kaneko teaches the method wherein the step of determining the position of the media sheet at the time of the media jam comprises detecting an amount of time since the media sheet has moved beyond a sensor and the speed of the media sheet moving along the media path (See col. 2, lines 32 – 43).

Art Unit: 2854

With respect to claim 3, Kaneko teaches the method further comprising displaying a second access point selected from the plurality of access points to access the media sheet when the operator is unable to reach the media sheet through the one of the plurality of access points (See col. 2, lines 1 – 15).

With respect to claim 4, Kaneko teaches the method further comprising displaying the location of the media jam to the operator (See col. 2, lines 19 – 31).

With respect to claim 5, Kaneko teaches the method wherein the step of determining the position of the media sheet at the time of the media jam comprises monitoring feedback from an encoder (See col. 7, lines 49 – 57) since the media sheet has moved beyond a sensor.

With respect to claim 6, Kaneko teaches the method wherein the step of determining the position of the media sheet at the time of the media jam comprises using the number of steps taken by a motor (See col. 7, lines 43 – 48).

With respect to claim 7, Kaneko teaches a method of clearing a media jam (See Abstract) from an image forming device comprising the steps of detecting a media jam within a media path (See col. 1, lines 43 – 56), determining a number of media sheets within the media path (See col.1, lines 58 – 65), determining a location of each of the media sheets along the media path (See col. 1, lines 43 – 56), displaying the number of media sheets within the media path (See col. 2, lines 19 – 31), determining which of a plurality of access points are to access and remove each of the media sheets (See col. 2, lines 1 – 19) and displaying the plurality of access points that are to be opened in an

order of priority to remove the media sheets and cause at least amount of damage to the device (See col. 2, lines 1 – 19).

With respect to claim 8, since Kaneko has the ability to detect a media jam location and visually display it, then in order to remove the media jam Kaneko has the ability to display the access points are less than a total number of access points on the image forming device to access the sole location to remove the jam media.

With respect to claim 9, Kaneko teaches the method wherein the step of determining which of the plurality of access points are to be opened comprises determining ergonomic requirements for accessing the media sheets through each of the plurality of access points (See col. 7, lines 1 – 25).

With respect to claim 10, Kaneko teaches the method further comprising to keep at least one of the plurality of media sheets within the media path (See col. 2, lines 19 – 31).

With respect to claim 11, Kaneko teaches a method of clearing a jam from an image forming device (See Abstract) comprising the steps of when a jam occurs, detecting the positions of a plurality of media sheets along a media path (See col. 1, lines 43 – 56), determining an access point to remove each of the plurality of media sheets from the media path based on being least disruptive and ergonomically correct (See col. 2, lines 1 – 19) and displaying (Fig. 3, 200) the access point for each of the plurality of media sheets on a display.

With respect to claim 12, Kaneko teaches the method further comprising displaying a total number of media sheets within the media path at the time of the jam (See col. 8, lines 1 – 44).

With respect to claim 13, Kaneko teaches the method further comprising displaying two or more of the access points for each of the plurality of media sheets (See col. 2, lines 1 – 19).

With respect to claim 14, Kaneko teaches a method of clearing a jam from an image forming device (See Abstract) comprising the steps of dividing a media path into sections (Fig. 1) each comprising a length of the media path, storing within a controller (101) an access point that provides access to each of the sections, monitoring (See col. 2, lines 1 – 11) movement of media sheets along the media path, detecting a jam (See col. 42 – 56) along the media path and the position of each of the media sheets at the time of the jam determining the sections of the media path where each of the media sheets is positioned at the time of the jam determining the access point that correlates to each of the sections where the media sheets are located and displaying the access points.

With respect to claim 15, Kaneko teaches a method for further comprising storing two or more access points within the controller that give access to each of the sections of the media path (See col. 2, lines 1 – 15).

With respect to claim 16, Kaneko teaches the method further comprising displaying a total number of the media sheets within the media path at the time of the jam (See col. 2, lines 1 – 19).

With respect to claim 17, Kaneko teaches a method of clearing a jam (See Abstract) from an image forming device comprising the steps of dividing a media path into sections (Fig. 1) each comprising a length of the media path, storing within a controller

Art Unit: 2854

(101) an access door that provides access to each of the sections, monitoring (See col. 2, lines 1 – 11) movement of media sheets along the media path, detecting a jam (See col. 42 – 56) along the media path and the position of each of the media sheets at the time of the jam, determining (See col. 1, lines 43 – 56) the sections of the media path where each of the media sheets is positioned at the time of the jam determining the access door that correlates to each of the sections where the media sheets are located and displaying the access doors.

With respect to claim 18, Kaneko teaches an image forming device (See Abstract) comprising a media path (Fig. 1) to move media sheets through an image forming unit, a plurality of access points (Fig. 6, 310, 311 and 312) spread across the image forming device that each provide access to a section of the media path, a controller (101) operatively connected to a plurality of sensors (22, 50 to 58) and a display (200), the controller (See col. 2, lines 1 – 59) having a first means for detecting the position of a media jam along the media path and a position of each of the media sheets along the media path at the time of the media jam, the controller (101) further having a second means for determining at least disruptive and ergonomically correct access point from the plurality of access points to access each of the media sheets along the media path.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marvin P. Crenshaw whose telephone number is (571) 272-2158. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:00 - 5:00.

Art Unit: 2854

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MPC

November 22, 2004



ANDREW H. HIRSHFELD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800